

Application/Control Number: 09/880,144  
Art Unit: 3643  
September 23, 2002  
Page 7

Remarks.

The Examiner's comments and objections and the cited references have been carefully considered by the Applicant.

Reconsideration of the application as hereby amended is respectfully requested.

The objected abstract has been replaced with a new abstract drafted according to the practice.

As regards the objected drawings, it is respectfully submitted that the reference numerals **32** and **105** are already reported on the original drawing figures 1 and 12, respectively. It is therefore believed that no further amendment to the drawings is necessary.

The subject-matter of claims 5-9 and 12, deemed allowable by the Examiner is hereby acknowledged.

Accordingly, new independent claims 27 and 28 have been drafted based on a combination of features including the features of claim 6 and 5 and 6, respectively.

A new independent claim 14 is also hereby submitted which includes the features:

*"1/reversible locking devices provided at said tangs;  
... insertable with said reversible locking devices in said first seats for interlocking ;  
..."said first and second profiles being removably connected to each other and  
interlocked by way of said corner joints so as to form a supporting frame " and  
"...grill-like wall elements removably connected to said supporting frame so as to form  
said cage;*

which are not disclosed, in combination with the other features of the claim, by Chiu or any other of the cited prior documents.

It is submitted that Chiu discloses grids 12, 14, 22... connected at corners by connection members 32, 32a through simple insertion connection. No supporting frame assemblable separately by connecting profiled elements locked by interlocking of corner elements with

Application/Control Number: 09/880,144  
Art Unit: 3643  
September 23, 2002  
Page 8

locking devices, are taught, and to which frame removable grills are added to form the cage.

Daily teaches a base frame 12 on top of which a cage is formed by connecting to each other by corner joints panels.

Daily does not disclose either a supporting frame formed by joining profiled elements with grills removably attachable as claimed in claim 14.

Moreover, it is further submitted that none of the cited prior documents discloses or suggests the supporting frame connected as claimed which allows removable addition of the grills and consequent formation of the desired modular cage structure claimed in claim 14.

Therefore the combination of claim 14 cannot be rendered obvious by the cited prior art, which, in fact, fails to provide all the features claimed and/or the necessary incentive for the person skilled in the art to achieve the claimed combination .

It is accordingly, now believed that the application is an allowable condition and allowance thereof is respectfully solicited.

While it is believed that the amended claims properly and clearly define the present invention, applicant would be open to any suggestion or amendment the Examiner may have or propose concerning different claim phraseology which, in the Examiner's opinion, more accurately defines the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Albert JOSIF (Reg. No. 22,917)

Agent for the applicant

Via Meravigli 16

20123 MILAN-ITALY

Milan: September 23, 2002